

PENITENTIARY—IOWA.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 251.]

MARCH 16, 1840.

Mr. POPE, from the Committee on the Territories, submitted the following

REPORT :

*The Committee on the Territories, to whom was referred the memorial of the Assembly of Iowa upon the subject of aid to complete their penitentiary, beg leave to report :*

That, from said memorial, and the report of the superintendents of said buildings, twenty thousand dollars have been expended in the erection of a penitentiary ; and that the same is so far completed, that twenty thousand more will prepare a part of it for the reception of convicts.

The rapid growth of that Territory has not allowed sufficient time to prepare places of confinement for the reception of persons convicted of crimes of a high grade. The recent organization, the short space of time that it will be an expense to the General Government (being expected to form a State government in 1840), the large amount of money received from the sale of public land within its limits, are very strong reasons why, in the opinion of your committee (apart from other important considerations), Congress should be somewhat liberal towards Iowa. Should this work stop now, it will be a great injury to that young and flourishing Territory. Under present circumstances, the committee think that a smaller sum than that prayed for in the memorial may suffice, and they accordingly report a bill.

Blair & Rives, printers.

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